Amendments to the Claims

The following listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A receiving apparatus comprising:

an operation section to which an information \underline{a} receiving command \underline{for} receiving one file is input[[,]];

a communication section for transmitting transmission request information for requesting the transmission of the information <u>file</u> input to said operation section to multiple storage apparatuses and for sequentially receiving divided information blocks obtained by dividing said <u>information file</u> and transmitted from said multiple storage apparatuses, <u>each of the divided</u> <u>information blocks</u> are received from each of said multiple storage apparatus:

a selection section for selecting only said divided information blocks received first from one of said storage apparatuses or a predetermined group of said divided information blocks with respect to each of said divided information blocks received by said communication section or each predetermined group of said divided information blocks[[,]]; and

an output section for outputting said divided information block or the predetermined group of said divided information blocks selected by said selection section.

- 2. (Currently amended) [[A]] The receiving apparatus in accordance with claim 1, wherein said communication section transmits, to a management apparatus, address information transmission request information for requesting the address information of said storage apparatuses in which said information file is stored, receives the address information of said multiple storage apparatuses from said management apparatus and transmits transmission request information for requesting the transmission of said information file to said multiple storage apparatuses on the basis of said address information.
- 3. (Currently amended) A receiving system wherein said management apparatus, said

multiple storage apparatuses and said receiving apparatus set forth in claim [[1]] 2 are connected via a communication network.

4. (Currently amended) A receiving method comprising:

an operation input step of inputting an information a receiving command for receiving one file; [[,]]

a transmission request step of transmitting transmission request information for requesting the transmission of said information file to multiple storage apparatuses[[,]];

a divided information receiving step of sequentially receiving divided information blocks obtained by dividing said information file and transmitted from said multiple storage apparatuses, each of the divided information blocks are received from each of said multiple storage apparatuses;

a selection step of selecting only said divided information block received first from one of said storage apparatus apparatuses or a predetermined group of said divided information blocks with respect to each of said divided information blocks or each predetermined group of said divided information blocks[[,]]; and

an output step of outputting said divided information block or the predetermined group of said divided information blocks having been selected.

5. (Currently amended) [[A]] <u>The</u> receiving method in accordance with claim 4, further comprising:

an address information transmission requesting step for transmitting, to a management apparatus, address information transmission request information for requesting the address information of said storage apparatuses in which said information file is stored, and

an address information receiving step of receiving the address information of said multiple storage apparatuses from said management apparatus, wherein

in said transmission requesting step, said transmission request information is transmitted to said multiple storage apparatuses on the basis of said address information having been received.

6. (New) A receiving method comprising:

inputting a receiving command for receiving a file;

transmitting transmission request information for requesting the transmission of the file to multiple storage apparatuses;

sequentially receiving divided information blocks obtained by dividing the file and transmitted from the multiple storage apparatuses, each of the divided information blocks are received from each of the multiple storage apparatuses;

selecting only the divided information block received first from one of the storage apparatuses or a predetermined group of the divided information blocks with respect to each of the divided information blocks or each predetermined group of the divided information blocks; and

outputting the divided information block or the predetermined group of the divided information blocks having been selected.